



First Presbyterian  
Church Livermore  
centered • celebrating • serving

# 2021



# ANNUAL REPORT

# *Table of Contents*

Remembering Those We've Lost	3
Senior Pastor Report	4
Pastor Denia & Pastor Josh Update	5
2021 Session Elders	6
2021 Board of Deacons	6
Deacons' Report for 2021	7
Children & Family Ministry	8
Student Ministry	9
Buildings and Grounds	10
Connections Ministry	10
Discipleship Team	11
Funds Report	11
Hospitality Team	12
Ministry Resources	12
Mission & Outreach Team	13-14
Mission Giving for 2021	15
Nominating Team	16
Office Report	16
Presbyterian Women	17
Smart Start Preschool	18
Veggie Table	18
Worship Team	19

*We celebrate those baptized in our church:*

Elizabeth Margaret Ackel

Bennett Walter Myli-Page

Dylan Caeden Valencia

*We remember with affection those who died:*



William Bigley

Margaret (Peggy) (Huiskamp) Burdick

Glen Robert Christoffersen

Marion Evelyn (McAuley) (Bakken) Eckard

Phyllis Fay (Jorgensen) Fachner

Nelson Fletcher

Robert James Green

Rhoda Mae (Siemens) Jackson

Marlene Margaret (Nevel) McGee (12/31/2020)

Jane Ellen (McGlynn) Nissen

Erik Donald Olsen

Barbara Gene (Redinger) Richards

Judith J. Thompson

Pamela Gay (Blackmun) Wheeler



# The Wilde Side of Things

Greetings!

We are fast approaching the completion and celebration of FPCL's 150th year of serving God and shining the light of Christ's love in the Tri-Valley! I am not sure that the faithful men and women who first formed FPCL in 1871 could have written a more creative script as to how years 149 & 150 would play out :-)

Hebrews 13:8 has provided an orienting theme as we have focused on our 150th -->

***Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever!***



In this theme we have been affirming with gratitude the incredible legacy of our church and God's providence through the generations that preceded us; we are humbly recognizing the strong and healthy place in which our ministry currently finds itself; with hope and confidence we are looking to the future into which God is calling us to thrive and serve.

As you read through this Annual Report you will likely [as I do] marvel at the spectrum of ministry, give thanks for the strength of our programs and take hope in the vitality of our faith and our spiritual lives that we share with one another. All of this while navigating the uniqueness of these days and this pandemic!

It is my prayer that you/I/we would also be encouraged and inspired by the Spirit of God as we open ourselves to the possibilities that are ahead of us. Possibilities to strengthen and reinforce our ministry in ways that we have come to value, and also possibilities that arise from new ideas and emerging ways in which we are called to be the church.

I will say again what I have said before - we head into 2022 with great confidence in our God for we know that ours is a church family that is strong spiritually, relationally, financially and programmatically. Individually we are thriving and growing in our commitment to Jesus - communally we are strong and expanding the impact we are having on God's behalf.

God bless each one of us as we play our part in the first chapter of FPCL's next 150 years!

Grace & Peace

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Wilde'.

Stephen Wilde  
Senior Pastor

## *Associate Pastor Updates*

Dear FPCL Family,

What a great year of ministry and service this has been, as we began to gather again in person while also maintaining our connections online! I am so thankful to serve God with you as a part of the church and I am humbled and blessed by all of you who have stepped up to provide and care for others and for our church as an institution. It has been my pleasure to work with our staff, our team of Pastoral Visitors and our Board of Deacons, many of our first responders to those we know are in need. Those offering their gifts in this way have enabled us, as a church, to respond in a timely way to many requests for care, both foreseen and unexpected, and to walk with others faithfully on their challenging journeys through life. Those who organize, staff, and lead memorials have especially helped us emerge from our isolation as we participate in services to remember those we have lost during the pandemic from our families and worshipping community. Many of you have provided an invaluable ministry of care this year, calling and caring for each other, and we are grateful. Exploring the Word of God with you in Presbyterian Women Leaders Bible Study (open to anyone) and from the pulpit is always dear to my heart. This year, I am excited to celebrate our church as part of God's history of faithfulness with all people. As we look back and plan forward, I am hopeful for the legacy we will leave for those who will come after us. With much gratitude for God's love and for our love for each other, it is my privilege to continue to serve you as one of your pastors.

***Respectfully Submitted***

***Denia Segrest, Associate Pastor-Tentmaker***

When I joined FPCL staff in December of 2019 I thought it was to help a friend Pastor Steve Wilde and a church that I love with pastoral care duties and leadership development for about 6-12 months as an interim pastor. I find myself two years later truly loving the FPCL community and have found a church home not only for Kelly and I but my daughter and her family too. 2021 was a continuation of 2020 in helping FPCL move forward not only online but to begin meeting in person and bring the community of believers back to FPCL on Sundays. Helping the team create the production booth, along with creating a combined Sunday service where the congregation gets the best of both types of music. It's been a joy to lead the congregation in the modern worship songs and reach a community of people who have a different "heart music" than hymns which has broaden our community at FPCL. I've been blessed to be able to build the production team, provide sermons for the congregation, lead bible studies and provide pastoral care when needed. In December we hired Mason to be the production/media director allowing me to begin taking over the pastoral care, volunteer involvement, and leadership development for which I originally came to serve in 2019. I am excited and filled with hope for the future of FPCL. As we celebrate all that God has done for the last 150 years my desire is to help FPCL move forward in serving the community with the love of Jesus. I am looking forward to all that God has for the people who currently are a part of FPCL and those yet to join us in 2022.

***Respectfully Submitted***

***Josh Jonas, Associate Pastor***

## 2021 Session Elders

### Children's Ministry

Sue Carling

### Clerk of Session

Christine Weber

### Faith Formation (Adult Education)

Kim Pillon & Pauline Thompson

### Hospitality

Vic Karpenko, Padmini Sockkappa, Mairi Wohlge-  
muth

### Ministry Resources

Don Frey, Rick Edson & Lynne Lyberger

### Mission and Service

Larry Fried & Shari Johnston

### Nominating

Cathy Griggs

### Outreach

Phil Dean & Clayton Salch

### Personnel

Linda Taylor

### Worship

Ellen Tarwater-Clower & Carey Grassinger

### Student & Family Ministry

Austin Antony, Sarah Baer & Kate Mullen

Session is responsible for the mission and government of the church, and is comprised of installed elders and the pastors. Members of program staff and the Clerk of Session attend session meetings regularly. Elders are elected by the congregation and develop teams of volunteers who work together within their ministry area. Meetings are the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm.

**Moderator of Session** *Pastor Steve Wilde*

## 2021 Board of Deacons

### Calling/Visiting

Judy Thompson

### Chariots of Care

Pamela Eckert

### Extended Communion & Flowers

Karen Vied

### Giving Tree

Susan Bond

### Martha Ministry

Vic Karpenko

### Medical Equipment Loan/Exchange

Alan Throop

### Memorial Receptions

Rose Marie Bartel, Kathy DeRego & Susan Frey

### Moderator

Sal Tompkins

### Pastoral Care

Joy Fischer, Carrie McAbee & Jane Nebo

### Prayer Chain

Linda Alexander

### Secretary

Margie Bodley

### Treasurer

Jinok Dean

### Vice Moderator

Kim Salch

### Student Ministry & Involvement

Natalie Geiger & Morgan Frazer

# Board of Deacons Report

The Board of Deacons functions under the authority and supervision of the Session and is described in the Presbyterian Book of Order as “The Ministry of Compassion and Service.” At FPCL, the Deacons provide direct ministries of caring for members and friends of our church community and the larger community.

Pastor Denia coordinates with deacons working to serve FPCL's Congregation Care Network which includes Pastoral Visitors, Visiting and Calling Deacons, Visiting Friends, and Care Contacts for the various life groups of our church.

**Specific ministries of caring provided through our Board of Deacons in 2021 include:**

**Monthly Miracles:** Deacons began 2021 participating with this organization and their sleeping bag project for the homeless of the TriValley.

**Prayer Chain:** Emails are sent to a list of "prayer warriors" to offer specific prayers.

**Medical Equipment:** Provide medical equipment for the congregation for a limited-term as needed.

**Memorial Receptions:** Organize volunteers to set up, serve, and clean-up all receptions. In 2021, Deacons hosted 12 memorial services.

**Giving Tree:** In conjunction with Tri-Valley Haven, FPCL donated \$2,075.00 for grocery gift cards. A new tree was purchased and placed in Fellowship Hall. A smaller tree was available to solicit gifts for Afghan refugee families from the Amazon wish list.

**Chariots of Care:** Provides transportation to Church events, doctors’ appointments etc.

**Martha’s Ministries:** Coordinates volunteers for meal sign up to families or individuals at a time of significant life events. In 2021 a total approx. 42 home-cooked meals were provided.

**Pastoral Care/ Visiting Calling:** Calling, visiting or sending cards to Congregants (and at times others) who may be experiencing health or other life challenges.

**Extended communion:** Assists a Pastor to provide communion to those unable to attend worship services in person. Due to Covid restrictions, visits were conducted, but the service of communion was rather limited.

**Emergency Response:** Provides gas, grocery and Fast Food cards to those in need.

**Livermore Bus Pass Drive:** Provided 50 24-hour Wheels bus passes to those in need within the community, enabling people to get to appointments, food pantries, jobs and interviews, etc.

**Laundry Ministry:** Supervise alongside other churches, the use of free laundry and shower services.

**Special Request:** Worked alongside other volunteers to help a family clean up a garden.

**Respectfully submitted, Sal F. Tompkins, Moderator, Board of Deacons**

Gift and gas cards were also distributed to families and individuals in need of emergency assistance. **As of December 31, 2021 the Deacons' Fund balance was \$11,573.41**

\$1500 Crisis Assistance

\$480 Memorial receptions preparation

\$350 Special Project : Bus Pass

\$290 Giving Tree

**Respectfully Submitted, Jinok Dean, Board of Deacons Treasurer**



# *Children, Student & Family Ministry*

## **Children & Family Ministry**

The beginning of 2021 had many uncertainties with kids still doing virtual learning in school. Many children were able to go back to in-person learning in the Spring and this opened new opportunities for children at church as well. This summer we were able to have in-person Summer Sunday Program for children. Isabelle Hayes came on board to lead a fantastic Vacation Bible Camp Program for kids in Fellowship Hall all summer long on Sunday mornings. This was a great way to reconnect with families we had not seen for many months. We were happy to have a children's program while the church opened for outdoor services this summer, we even had a Easter egg hunt on campus!



In addition to our summer program, we hosted Big Summer Nights which included:

- a family BBQ and game night
- a mission project night
- a night of games for kids
- a parenting course for parents

Each of these nights were great ways to connect with families and provide intentional time and space to gather.

In the Fall we continued meeting in person on Sunday mornings and introduced a new multimedia curriculum. Each month kids have explored biblical stories and themes including, the story of Job, the Prophets, Spiritual Habits, and the birth of Christ. This has been a great interactive curriculum for all ages!

In December we hosted the Livermore Lights event for the entire church. During Livermore Lights we invited everyone to come up to the church for a bag of treats, hot chocolate, and a map of great Christmas light spots around town. It was nice to see so many people stop by the church! We were also thankful to bring back the Children & Student Christmas Pageant. Several kids, young and old, in person and virtual participated in our annual Christmas pageant. After the pageant, families were invited into fellowship hall to enjoy our Bethlehem Marketplace.

Although this year has had its challenges, it has been fun to connect with children and families in person again! We are looking forward to all that 2022 has in store for our church families!

**Respectfully Submitted,**

*Brie Johnson,*

*Director of Children, Student & Family Ministry*



# Children & Family Ministry

## Student Ministry

Students continued to face new challenges amidst the on-going pandemic. Virtual learning continued for student in 2021 and this as you can imagine impacted students in many ways.

Over the summer we celebrated four of our high school graduates with gifts delivered to each of them. Students also participated in our Big Summer Nights throughout the summer, by helping with various activities and attending with their family.

Students have taken a bigger presence in the life of our church. We have often seen them reading Scripture on Sunday mornings, helping with childcare and the children's program, serving on the sound team, and involved in worship. This Fall we were able to welcome students back into the youth room on Sunday mornings. This has been a great time for students to spend time with each other, share about their weeks, watch the service online, read Scripture and play games.

In October students were invited once again to our Annual Corn Maze and Cookie Tailgate. They all had a blast, and no one got lost in the maze. We were also able to host the Photo Hunt once again where students run around downtown in search of ridiculous clues and perform crazy challenges. We entered the Advent season and assembled Christmas care packages for our college students, this is a long-standing tradition the students have loved. Many students participated in the Annual Christmas pageant this year.

As we move into 2022, we are looking forward to connecting with students and increasing their involvement in the larger church. The church is one of the few places students have the chance to interact with people in different generations, other than their parents. We hope as we enter this new year, we can build those intergenerational relationships within our church family.



**Respectfully Submitted,**

*Brie Johnson,*

*Director of Children, Student & Family Ministry*

## *Buildings and Grounds*

Elder: Don Frey

Staff Liaison: Jane Ackley

Throughout the year in 2021 there were all the routine needs for maintaining the facilities. In addition, we were able to oversee or provide support, where needed, for major projects for building and site maintenance and to facilitate enhanced capabilities for on-line outreach.

### **Some of the projects completed in 2021:**

- All periodic inspections and maintenance as required by CA codes
- Battery checks and replacement, as needed, for alarms and emergency exit signs
- Mulching of the entire campus landscaping with the help of Boy Scout Troop 939
- Replacement of weather-damaged sanctuary windows
- Construction of the new sound booth in the sanctuary
- Polished concrete on the Narthex floor
- Additions and upgrades to several storage spaces in the sanctuary (Bell room & Sacristy) and other classroom buildings
- Refreshing the narthex, family room and associated restroom
- Broken kitchen coffeemaker replaced and ice-maker drain clearing
- Hanging and providing wiring for lighting of the chapel wall cross made from the old sanctuary cross
- Removal of the dying palm tree in the chapel lawn

**Respectfully Submitted,**

*Don Frey, Ministry Resources Elder, B&G*

## *Connections Ministry*

Coordinator of Connections Ministry: Kim Salch

Staff Liaison: Pastor Steve Wilde

Elders: Ruth Buchanan, Vic Karpenko, Padmini Sakkappa, Mauri Wohlgemuth

The Connections Ministry Team supports programming of the Deacons, Hospitality Committee, Discipleship Team, Life Groups, Congregational Care, Mission and Outreach Team, Student and Families and The Welcome Committee (New member).

In 2021, we supported teams with in person and ZOOM gatherings/meetings, collection and delivery to food pantries and others in need in our Livermore Community.

Cards are sent, phone calls are made and “front porch” visits continue (when Covid protocols allow).

Life Groups and New Members/Attendees are a focus this year.

We have 12 ongoing groups and new groups are forming for 2022.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

*Kim Salch, Coordinator of Connections Ministry*

## *Discipleship Team*

Elders: Kim Pillon & Pauline Thompson  
 Staff Liaison: Pastor Steve Wilde, Pastor Denia Segrest, Kim Salch

This past year has been a time of reassessment for the Discipleship team. With in-person events starting again in the Fall of 2021, we have been reevaluating the goals and purpose of the team, including a name change.

We are now focused on offering activities, talks and short-term classes that explore the teachings of Jesus Christ and enable the congregation to connect with each other outside of Sunday worship. This includes finding ways to involve our online community. We are currently rebuilding the committee and brainstorming ideas for 2022.

We are looking forward to this coming year.

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
*Pauline Thompson & Kim Pillon,*  
*Faith Formation Elders*

## *Funds Team*

Chair: Sherry McCarthy  
 Elders: Rick Edson, Lynne Lyberger  
 Staff Liaison: Jane Ackley, Danielle Hayes, Pastor Steve Wilde  
 Funds Team: Janet Dimits, Gordon Longerbeam, Antony Selvaraj, Raymie Tindle, Molly Yarnevich

### **2021 donations received in memory of:**

- Betty Greenlee
- Erik Olsen
- Howard Seebach

This year the Funds Team:

- Funded the plexi-glass window protectors for the four chapel windows
- Funded the LED back light for the cross hung on the chapel wall in the courtyard area.
- After review of our current webpage, we made several additions and changes with more details for those looking for information on various ways to give to FPCL.
- We moved our funds for the Christian Heritage Fund into a Balance Growth Fund through New Covenant Account of the Presbyterian Foundation in June of 2021. These changes are to help reach the goal to grow this account substantially.

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
*Sherry McCarthy, Chair*

## *Hospitality Team*

Elders: Vic Karpenko, Padmini Sökkappa, Mairi Wohlgermuth

Staff Liaison: Kim Salch

Hospitality Committee is: New Members, Congregational Life, Coffee Hour Fellowship and special affiliation with Connections Ministry (Welcome) and Presbykates

We returned to in-person worship in July and with that served coffee & waters in the courtyard (thank you servers!).

In August we were thrilled to have our taco cart serve delicious tacos for our church picnic in the courtyard.

This fall we had to replace our commercial grade coffee maker but have been able to return to large carafes of delicious warm coffee for after 10 AM service!

We look forward to celebrating our 150th in February.

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
*Vic Karpenko*  
*Padmini Sökkappa*  
*Mairi Wohlgermuth*  
 Hospitality Elders

## *Ministry Resources*

Chair: Rob Couberly

Elders: Rick Edson, Don Frey & Lynne Lyberger  
 Don Bartel, Rollin Harding

Staff Members: Jane Ackley, Danielle Hayes,  
 Pastor Steve Wilde

The Ministry Resources Team (MRT) is focused on ensuring that First Presbyterian Church of Livermore (FPCL) has the funding and facilities needed to further the church's mission in the service of Jesus Christ.

The team strives to ensure funding for programs and special projects through coordination of the annual stewardship drive and through participation of some members in the Funds Committee. The team reviews and discusses FPCL's detailed financial statements and investments with the church's accounting specialist to ensure Session is presented with an accurate financial picture and that, when necessary, financial issues are brought to Session for discussion.

During the annual budgeting process, the team and the church's accounting specialist, analyze how much to budget for revenue in the upcoming year. The team also make a recommendation on how much Session should hold in reserve for capital projects (e.g. a new roof) and for use as needed as specified by Session.

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
*Rob Couberly, Chair*

# Mission & Service Team

Elders: Larry Fried, Shari Johnston, Phil Dean & Clayton Salch

Staff Liaison: Pastor Steve Wilde

In 2021, the Mission Elders and Outreach Elders met with Pastor Steve Wilde to strategize on how to best meet the needs of the community and congregation in our mission efforts. Previously, the two Mission Elders (Shari Johnston and Larry Fried) were responsible for the financial aspects of mission activities, while the Outreach Elders (Phil Dean and Clayton Salch) were responsible for hands-on mission activities.

While this division of responsibilities is understandable, the Elders and Pastor Steve felt that closer collaboration between hands-on and financial activities would be desirable in better focusing our efforts. At this time, Mission and Outreach activities are unified into a single Mission and Service area under the supervision of the four Elders. The Elders identified four focus areas for activities in the future.

These are:

1. Empowering Youth and Families
2. Promoting Inclusion
3. Nurturing Well-Being
4. Engaging in Direct Assistance

Our current activities are generally aligned with these areas, but in the future we anticipate that the focus areas will be helpful in communicating with the congregation and developing small focus groups to engage more deeply in individual areas.

FPCL's Mission Team met through Zoom during 2021. We gave a record amount to our mission partners this year, for a total of more than \$102,000. This is a phenomenal milestone and represents the enormous generosity of the congregation in supporting the operation of the church, the staff, and the wider community.

- In 2021 Mission Team added Goodness Village as a partner. Goodness Village provides community and homes for those without access to stable housing. We are very excited to be partnering with them, and pledged half of the 2021 Christmas Eve Offering to Goodness Village.
- We supported the homeless through direct assistance in meal and grocery cards, in partnership with Livermore Homeless Refuge.
- We provided gloves for the homeless this winter, and enhanced our giving to Arukah House, which provides a way forward from incarceration and homelessness to men.
- We supported a number of organizations to provide food and clean water to those in need.
- Open Heart Kitchen provides free meals and groceries to many in the Tri-Valley area. In 2021 we donated over \$12,000 to Open Heart Kitchen to help support the hungry during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- We partnered with a local chapter of the Rise Against Hunger organization, while supporting the efforts of Living Water World Missions, which installs clean water systems in developing communities.

These efforts fit well with our themes of Nurturing Well-Being and Engaging in Direct Assistance.

- The Mission team Supported Youth and Families in a number of ways.
  - Our financial support of Jewish Family and Community Services (JFCS) provides essential first steps in helping Afghan refugee families recover from the trauma of violence and displacement.
    - We have a very active Refugee Services Committee that worked closely with several families in partnership with JFCS.
    - The group set up apartments before the families arrive, drive family members to crucial medical and government services appointments, and aid the families in acquiring English skills and acculturating to life in the US.
    - We partnered with the congregation and the Deacons to provide extra gift cards to the refugee families this Christmas.
  - FPCL also supports abused and/or troubled women, youth, and those at risk of trafficking through Tri-Valley Haven, Love Never Fails, Seek and Save, and Shepherd's Gate.
  - The Backpack Project supported Livermore area students, while Kids Bike Lane donated a record number of bicycles to children and youth at Christmas and throughout the year.
- FPCL members played a vital role in volunteering with these organizations.
- We wrote letters of appreciation to every Livermore School District principal, while donating \$1800 in discretionary funds for the principal's use.

Finally, FPCL embraced inclusion through our participation in and support of the Livermore Gay Pride event. We supported the Livermore School District American Indian Center, and donated to Pilgrims of Ibillin, which operates multi-cultural, multi-ethnic schools of excellence in Israel, Gaza, and the West Bank. We also supported the disadvantaged San Francisco Asian community through the Donaldina Cameron House.

Mission and Service is very proud of the continued generosity of the FPCL members in this time of an extended pandemic and disruption to our normal way of life. We are truly humbled by the generous donations of money, material gifts, and time from the congregation that make FPCL's mission activities possible.

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
*Larry Fried, Mission & Service Elder*

# 2021 Mission Giving

## Operating Fund Mission Giving

Aid for Hungry (McDonald's, Bus tix, Grocery)	\$6,604.60
American Indian Center of Livermore	\$4,000
Arukah House	\$7,000
Axis Community Health	\$4,750
Donaldina Cameron House	\$2,000
Goodness Village	\$4,000
International Rescue Committee	\$6,000
Jewish Family & Community Serv.	\$4,500
Kids Bike Lane	\$5,000
Livermore Schools	\$1,800
Livermore Joint Unified School District - Nurses	\$2,000
Living Water World Missions	\$4,000
Love Never Fails	\$1,000
Mercy Beyond Borders	\$2,000
Night to Shine	\$5,000
Open Heart Kitchen	\$7,000
Pilgrims of Ibillin	\$2,000
PC USA 2021 General Relief	\$1,000
PC USA COVID Relief	\$3,000
PC USA Hurrricane Relief	\$2,000
PC USA Haiti Relief	\$2,000
Rise Against Hunger	\$500
Seek and Save	\$3,500
Seminary Students Support	\$7,059.17
Shepherd's Gate	\$1,000
Tri-Valley Haven	\$4,000
Reimbursements	\$1,355.16
Texas Presbyterian Church (Disaster Relief)	\$3,000

---

**Operating Fund Giving Total** **\$97,068.93**

## Fundraisers

Backpack Project	\$4,770
------------------	---------

## Designated Gifts from Congregation

Christmas Eve	\$11,193.09
Livermore Homeless Refuge	\$4,246.00
PC USA Disaster Relief	\$200.00
Refugee Services	\$2,050.00

## Presbytery Special Offerings:

Christmas Joy	\$500
One Great Hour	\$2,720
Peacemaking - Presbytery	\$680
Pentecost	\$150

---

**Total Mission Money Spent** **\$122,284.99**





## Nominating

Elder: Cathy Griggs, Deacon: Kim Salch  
 Staff Liaison: Pastor Steve Wilde,  
 Nominating Committee: Karen Albertson, Rick Edson, and Brie Johnson

The Nominating Team met in 2021 to select nominees for Elders, Deacons and members of the Nominating Team and the Funds Team.

We thank outgoing elders and deacons who have completed their terms of service, congregation members for suggesting names to consider, and all those who prayed about whether to accept a call to leadership.

We appreciated the careful consideration of all those we asked to serve and were pleased to present names at the October congregational meeting of those who felt the call to serve and said, "Yes!" Additional names will be presented at the January Congregational Meeting.

The Nominating Team presented the following slate of officers and team members for election:

- Three current Elders were elected to serve a second three year term and three were elected to replace outgoing Elders.
- One Deacons was elected to serve a second three year term and 7 were elected to replace outgoing Deacons.
- Three new members was elected to serve on the Commemorative and Endowment Funds Committee.
- One new member was elected to serve on the Nominating Team

**Respectfully Submitted,**

*Cathy Griggs, Nominating Elder & Chair*

## Office

Staff: Jane Ackley, Danielle Hayes,  
 Michele O'Hair, Deb Halford, Jen Wilde  
 Church Counters:

Linda Alexander, Shirley Couberly

*I continue to be thankful for the office staff who are doing a great job with the day to day running of 'all things church' throughout the continuing restrictions the pandemic brings to us.*

In 2021 staff came back to working in the office once more. The office kept the hours of closing at 1pm. Staff are fortunate the office infrastructure is such that they are able to work remotely in an effective way if the need arises.

We sadly said goodbye to Michele who retired after several faithful years serving the many people walking through our office doors.

We welcomed Deb into the position of Project Support Coordinator who is doing a great job learning the various tasks associated with this position.

Along with our day to day tasks, office infrastructure is kept up to date - computers, network, electronic filing system etc..

For added security we had a camera system installed in the main hallway looking out toward the main 5th St. entrance and also the courtyard entrance. A computer/screen is set up in the main office so staff can view those coming to either door. This provides a safety feature for times when a staff member is working alone in the office.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

*Jane Ackley, Director of Church Operations*



## *Smart Start Preschool*

Owner: Dan Karlsen. Executive & Site Director: Rebecca Hardesty

Due to Covid restrictions, we are required to keep our numbers low to help prevent the spread of Covid and keep students separated. We have been 100% full to the new guidelines. We began to use room D1 which allowed us to spread the kids out while keeping numbers up. We continue to review new policies and guidelines that we adhere to with excessive cleaning of the classrooms and playground. All classrooms and teachers are kept separate and never intermingle.

The carpets get cleaned professionally 5-6 times a year.

Further repairs/upgrades were made throughout the preschool area in 2021.



**Respectfully Submitted,** *Rebecca Hardesty, Director of Smart Start Preschool*

## *Veggie Table*

This was the 12th year of the VeggieTable. We continue to grow a variety of veggies at the Finn's farm with the help of many wonderful volunteers.

Things looked a bit different during the past two years. During COVID, we have set up tables at the Finn Farm on Wednesdays and Saturdays instead of bringing the produce to the church on Sundays. Members of FPCL and the Livermore community go to the farm to select produce and make donations. 100% of donations goes to the principal on the mortgage for the renovation of the church in 2005. The farm is also a place to gather for fellowship about gardening and food and making new friends. We also donate food to local low-income senior housing.

The change of location and restrictions of Covid have impacted the donations. **That said, the 2021 of \$4,137 brings our 12-year total to well over \$100,000.** What a generous community and bountiful gardens!

**A HUGE THANK YOU** to **ALL** the volunteers who come to help at the farm in various ways. The farm would not be possible without the generous help. If anyone is interested in volunteering, we could always use more volunteers. We plant, harvest and offer veggies to the community on Wednesday and Saturday mornings.

Sign up by notifying Wanda at [wandafinn@hotmail.com](mailto:wandafinn@hotmail.com)

**Respectfully Submitted,** *Wanda Finn, Veggie Table*

# Worship Team

Elders: Ellen Tarwater-Clower, Carey Grassinger

Staff: Cathy Griggs, Janet Holmes, Pastor Denia Segrest, Pastor Steve Wilde



2021 found us amid the pandemic and continuing to on-line video-stream both the modern service and traditional service. Behind the scenes, technology improvements and construction of a sound booth were in process in anticipation of future live streaming and in-person worship. We tackled a Sacristy reorganization and made storage improvements related to newly acquired equipment. Many thanks to all those who worked toward these goals. In the spring, a biweekly outdoor courtyard service was added our Worship offerings. During the summer, we became One Church with One Service having elements of both the modern & traditional services and gratefully were finally able to open in-person and live stream on July 11th! In late August, our Session made the decision to continue with one worship service model as we headed into the Fall season.

Again, we have been blessed by the gifts of our preaching staff as we journeyed through the year's sermon series starting with Piece It Together, Everything I Needed to Know About Life, I Learned from a Jigsaw Puzzle, a theological play on puzzles. Next up, Irresistible, inviting us to reflect more deeply on the love God has for us in Jesus and how we can recapture the faith that the early church found so compelling & so... irresistible. After Easter, in Encore! we profiled different followers of Jesus that played a part in the post resurrection movement that became Christianity. The summer's That's a Good Question! focused on a question raised in scripture and considered the question itself and the passage's invitation into a deeper reflection of faith and awareness of God's truth. The Way explored Jesus' invitation to journey with Him and to live a life that embodies the love, acceptance, healing, and hope. We rounded out the year with An Advent-FULL Christmas reminding us to counter the excess of our culture and instead seek an abundance of the things that matter to God: peace, hope, joy, and love!

Along with the staff, we have continued to monitor the Covid guidelines for gathering to ensure the safety of all involved in the service are protected. We look forward to safely resuming all the activities that allow us to contribute in sacred and profound ways to each other and the wider community. We continue to welcome and encourage all those interested to join us in a variety of ways: making music, reading scripture, helping with Worship, and simply stepping in to help whenever needed and available. We remain committed to both the tangible and intangible ways that God acts in our lives and guides our efforts.

**Respectfully Submitted,** *Ellen Tarwater-Clower & Carey Grassinger* *Worship Elders*

